

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, CI, US

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT

FOR AMBASSADOR POPPER (ARA/BC) FROM CHARGE

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED STARTING DRAFT FOR YOUR WORK ON ARRIVAL STATEMENT. IF YOU WILL CABLE TEXT YOU PLAN TO USE, WE SHALL TRANSLATE AND CABLE SPANISH TEXT TO YOU.

2. BEGIN TEXT: MY ARRIVAL HERE TODAY REPRESENTS A KIND OF HOMECOMING. MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS AGO MY LIFE WAS ENRICHED BY THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE, TRAVEL AND WORK AMONG THE PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICA. I LEARNED THEN -- AND HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN -- THAT THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS -- NORTH AND SOUTH -- ARE INDISSOLUBLY BOUND TOGETHER, AS THE INHERITORS AND SHAPERS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION, BY TIES OF CULTURE, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, SHARED VALUES AND COMMON INTERESTS. I ALSO LEARNED THAT MANY OF THE HIGHEST VALUES OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION -- OUR SPIRITUAL ASPIRATIONS, OUR CONCEPT OF THE UNIQUE WORTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL, OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN DIGNITY, TO HUMAN RIGHTS, AND TO FREEDOM-- HAVE FOUND THEIR FINEST EXPRESSION AMONG THE PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICA.

IT IS A SOURCE OF SPECIAL GRATIFICATION TO ME THAT THIS HOMECOMING BRINGS ME TO CHILE, A NATION WHICH TYPIFIES SO MUCH OF THE BEST IN THE LATIN AMERICAN TRADITIONS BUT WHICH IS AT THE SAME TIME A NATION WITH ITS OWN PRONOUNCED CHARACTER, WHOSE PEOPLE HAVE MADE, AND CONTINUE TO MAKE, UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO

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OUR SPIRITUAL HERITAGE. AS BERNARDO O'HIGGINS AND THE OTHER

FATHERS OF CHILEAN INDEPENDENCE MADE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO FREEDOM IN THIS HEMISPHERE, SO OTHER CHILEANS -- STATESMEN, SCIENTIST, EDUCATORS, JURISTS, ARTISTS AND POETS -- HAVE MADE NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LIFE OF MAN. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE PRIVILEGE OF MAKING NEW CHILEAN FRIENDS AND TO SEEING FOR YSELF THE NATURAL BEAUTY FOR WHICH THIS LAND IS JUSTLY FAMOUS.

THE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CHILE AND THE UNITED STATES DATE FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. JOEL R. POINSETT, THE FIRST UNITED STATES CONSUL TO CHILE, ARRIVED IN SANTIAGO IN DECEMBER, 1811. APRIL 1974 WILL MARK THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL IN SANTIAGO OF HEMEN ALLEN, THE FIRST U.S. ENVOY AND MINISTE PLENIPOTENCIARY TO THE INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC OF CHILE. IN THE INTERVENING YEARS THE FRIENDSHIP THAT BINDS OUR TWO PEOPLES HAS BEEN DEEPEMED AND BROADENED BY THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COUNTLESS CHILEANS AND AMERICANS IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE. IT IS MY HOPE THAT I TOO MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THAT FRIENDSHIP.

IT HAS BECOME COMMONPLACE THAT WE OF THE 20TH CENTURY FACE UNPARALLELED GLOBAL CHALLENGES AT A TIME OF STAGGERING AND ACCELERATING CHANGE. IT IS EQUALLY TRUE THAT THESE CHALLENGES OFFER US EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITIES TO DIRECT INEVITABLE CHANGE ALONG PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE LINES TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL OUR PEOPLES. TO SEIZE THESE OPPORTUNITIES REQUIRES NEW DEPARTURES AND RENEWED EFFORT. SUCH A NEW DEPARTURE IN INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS WILL BE MARKED BY THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS LATER THIS MONTH WHERE THE UNITED STATES HOPES TO INITIATE A NEW DIALOGUE BASED UPON EQUALITY AND GUIDED BY CURRENT REALITIES. SIMILARLY, AS A NEW PHASE OF THEN"FORCED MARCH" OF CHILEAN HISTORY, AS GABRIELA MISTRAL ONCE CALLED IT, THE PEOPLE OF CHILE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN A NEW NATIONAL ENDEAVOR MARKED BY RENEWED EFFORT. IN THE PROCESS, CHILEANS WILL BE SEEKING TO REALIZE THEIR OWN UNIQUE VISION OF A PRODUCTIVE, MODERN SOCIETY AND TO SATISFY THEIR OTHER IDEALS AND ASPIRATIONS IN WAYS COMPATIBLE WITH THEIR OWN GREAT CULTURE AND TRADITIONS. AS THEY DO SO, THEY WILL BE COOPERATING FREELY WITH THEIR FRIENDS ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES IN TERMS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND IN PURSUIT OF COMMON GOALS. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS ONE SUCH FRIEND. IT IS A SOURCE

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OF PRIDE AND SATISFACTION TO ME THAT I SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY A PART IN THIS COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISE. END TEXT. THOMPSON

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